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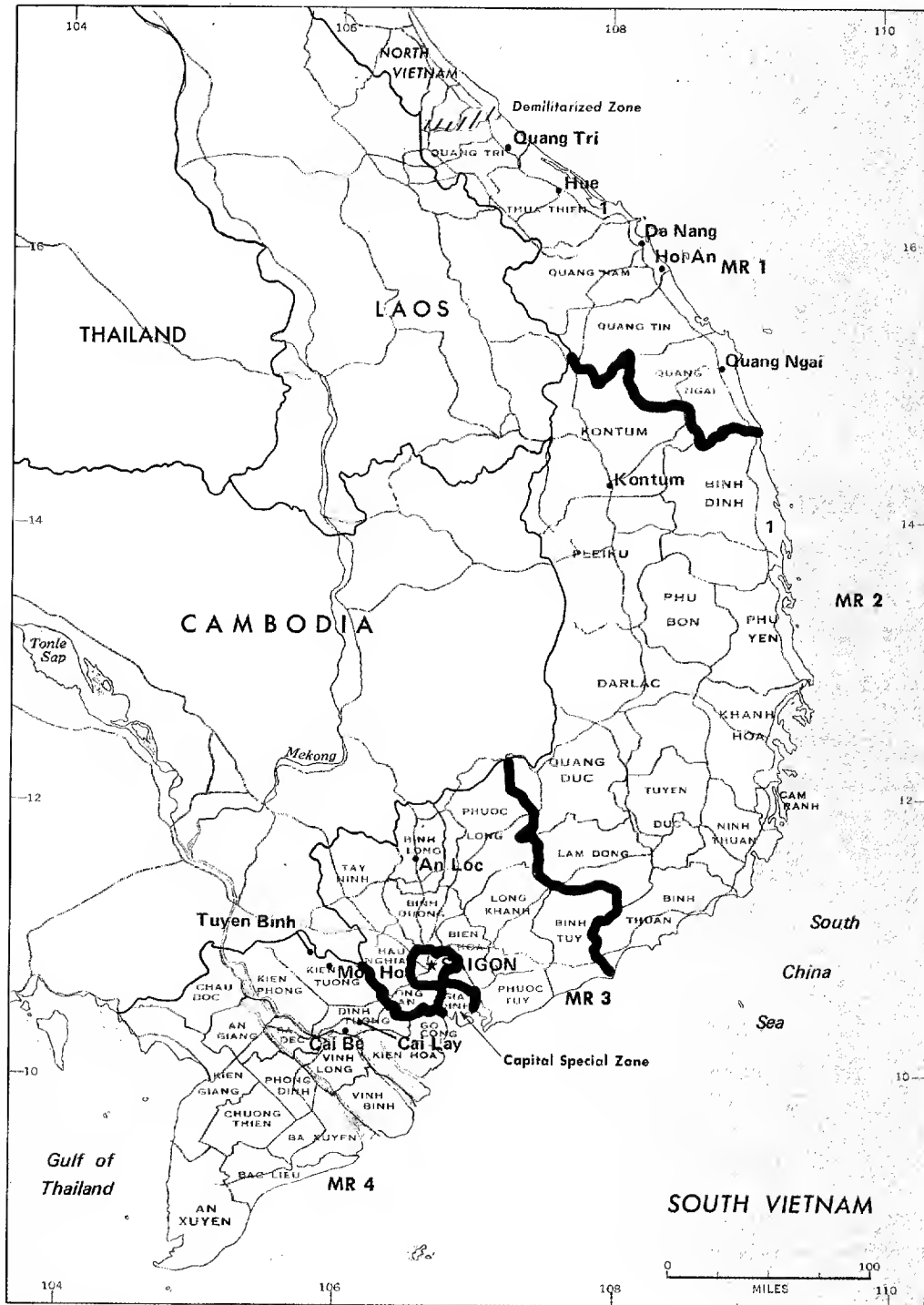
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VIETNAM: Most of the military action in South Vietnam over the weekend occurred at the northern and southern ends of the country.

A number of enemy artillery attacks and ground engagements took place around Hue. Enemy fire along Route 1 north of Hue brought the total number of 130-mm. rounds fired in this area during the previous week to 1,450, by far the highest number fired since the fall of Quang Tri City on 1 May. Da Nang and Hoi An were also hit by artillery, and the enemy is active near Quang Ngai City. The five-battalion South Vietnamese marine foray into southern Quang Tri Province ended on schedule after three days.

Fighting was also widespread in the delta. Communist forces attacked Tuyen Binh District town in Kien Tuong Province on 10 June, and fighting continues between the town and the Cambodian border. The provincial capital, Moc Hoa, and three nearby ranger bases have been shelled or have come under ground attack, with 2,000 of Moc Hoa's 15,000 residents fleeing south from the shellings. In Dinh Tuong Province, elements of the 88th and DT-1 regiments overran three outposts in Cai Lay and Cai Be districts and are putting pressure on the district seats. The enemy also overran outposts in Kien Hoa, Kien Giang, and Bac Lieu provinces, launched ground assaults against district headquarters in Ba Xuyen and An Xuyen provinces, and shelled the provincial capital of Bac Lieu.

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Pilots attacking power plants and railroad bridges in North Vietnam report encountering balloons suspended in clusters over target areas. Explosive charges attached to the balloons reportedly are detonated from the ground when aircraft come near. Hanoi may be using the balloons to

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help conserve antiaircraft ammunition and surface-to-air missiles which the North Vietnamese initially expended in great numbers against US planes.

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The difficulties being encountered by the enemy during the current offensive in South Vietnam may be causing some Communist officials to take a more cautious line about the outcome of the offensive.

The Viet Cong's chief negotiator in Paris, Madame Nguyen Thi Binh, reportedly stated recently that the offensive was not going as well as originally expected. [REDACTED] she has indicated that the bombing of North Vietnam was disturbing, that Saigon's troops were fighting more effectively than expected, and that the people of South Vietnam were not supporting the Communists by remaining in the liberated areas but were moving closer to major government population centers.

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Recent remarks attributed to a North Vietnamese official in Paris also reflect similar themes. He reportedly commented that Hanoi had underestimated the ability of South Vietnamese Government forces to withstand heavy military attacks, and that it had overestimated the willingness of South Vietnam's rural population to support the revolution. He reportedly admitted that he was aware the people were not waiting to be liberated by the revolutionary forces but were moving into government-controlled areas. He blamed the overestimation of popular support for the campaign on reports from the Communists' southern command, which he claimed had originally indicated that the people would support the revolution once the offensive began.

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The remarks of both Communist officials in Paris, [] come on the heels of reports that the Communists' top southern command--the Central Office for South Vietnam (COSVN)--is displeased over the inability of the Viet Cong's political apparatus to generate "popular uprisings" throughout the country. Since mid-May, COSVN has issued several directives admonishing its subordinate commands for failing to rally the people to support the revolution and revolt against the government. The latest directive, which reportedly was disseminated in early June, criticizes in fairly harsh terms the shortcomings of the Viet Cong apparatus and specifically warns the cadre not to rely solely on the military aspect of the offensive to accomplish their objectives.

It is quite possible that word has been passed from the southern battlefield to both Hanoi and its representatives abroad warning them that the political phase of the current campaign in the south is not going as well as originally expected. []

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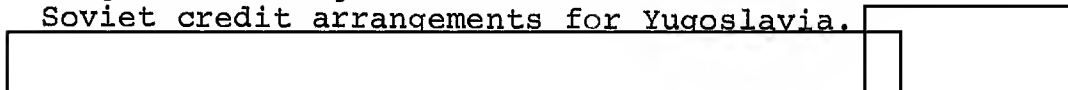
YUGOSLAVIA-USSR: Tito's visit to Moscow, which ended Saturday, apparently continued the trend toward improved Soviet-Yugoslav relations without changes in the basic positions of either country.

Both sides have expressed satisfaction with the visit despite the fact that no significant new agreements were reached. The Soviet reception was cordial, and Brezhnev doled out honors for the aging Yugoslav leader with an open hand. Tito's and indeed the general Yugoslav reaction--including that of the truculent Yugoslav press--was warmly receptive. Both sides approved in principle an increase in their political contacts and economic cooperation. In international affairs, the communiqué focused on areas of agreement, ignoring or artfully veiling existing differences.

Unlike the tense atmosphere that prevailed during Brezhnev's talks in Belgrade last September, there were few indications of sharp behind-the-scenes differences. The only noteworthy incident was a Yugoslav press report on Thursday that suggested some difficulties in drafting the communiqué.

On Friday, Tito spoke to Soviet workers in a Moscow factory and emphasized the right of all socialist countries to pursue independent "ways and forms." The Yugoslavs subsequently have stressed a vague phrase in the communiqué which suggests that Moscow edged away from the Brezhnev doctrine. The phrase might be read as a further attempt by Brezhnev to project a good impression of Soviet intentions in European detente.

The friendly atmosphere of the visit sets the stage for coming economic talks on the details of Soviet credit arrangements for Yugoslavia.



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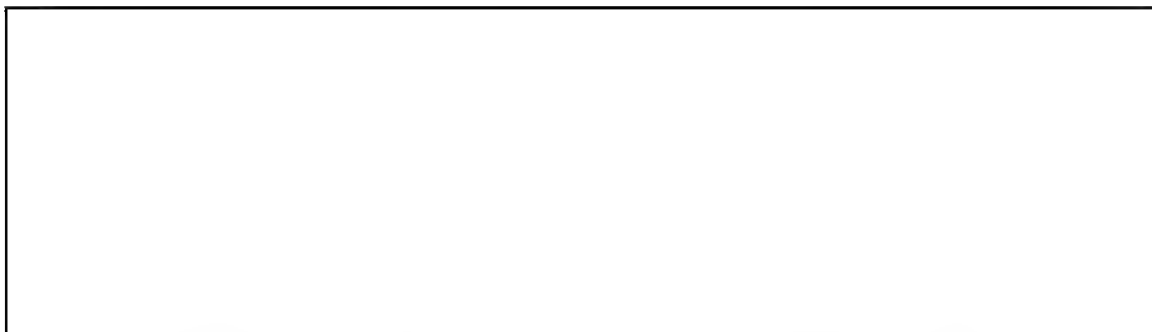
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USSR-FRANCE: Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko today begins a four-day official visit to France, which is likely to focus on a review of the Moscow summit and on European matters.

An official of the French Foreign Ministry has indicated that Gromyko will meet with President Pompidou, Prime Minister Chaban-Delmas, and Foreign Minister Schumann and that virtually the entire visit will be devoted to substantive consultations. Upcoming European matters, including a Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), exploratory talks on mutual and balanced force reductions, and prospects for inter-German relations, will be stressed. The Middle East and Vietnam will receive less attention.



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Gromyko is likely to push hard for more rapid movement toward a CSCE. Fully aware of French opposition to force reductions, he probably will be inclined to let Paris raise that question if it wishes. The French may well be interested in probing Moscow's intentions in view of the summit to begin force reduction negotiations. Gromyko surely will press for quicker French recognition of East Germany, but Paris will probably stress continued Four-Power consultations. The Soviets are also likely to seek French views on West European integration. Moscow is having considerable difficulty sorting out its tactics for dealing with the EC, and the French are trying to use their close relationship with the USSR to play for an even more influential role in intra-EC matters.

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WESTERN EUROPE: The founding constitution of a new European trade union structure was approved by labor delegates at a meeting in Geneva last week.

The new organization--composed of 16 International Confederation of Free Trade Union (ICFTU) affiliates from EC members and candidates, plus Austria, Sweden, Finland, and Switzerland--will hold a constituent congress in early December. While the grouping is limited to ICFTU members, provision has been made to maintain contact with the rival European affiliates of the World Confederation of Labor "in order to prepare a new dialogue on future European trade union cooperation." The new organization has also pledged its support for the international activities of the ICFTU, although its major efforts and interests will clearly be directed toward the European area.

The primary purpose of the trade union organization is to increase labor's influence within the EC. The results of past attempts at coordinated action have been minimal, with unions concentrating on lobbying in their own national parliaments in a round-about effort to affect EC policies. The founders of the new organization have made clear that it will be in contact with Common Market institutions and will try to make its views known in those councils.

The apportionment of representation and proposed statutes confirm the EC character of the new union grouping. German and British trade unions will have the largest voting blocs, and only EC member affiliates are likely to take part in voting on proposals concerning the EC. While the British union has shared the Labor Party's opposition to British EC entry, it has been slowly preparing to deal with the communities from within the European union structure. The new organization can be expected to press

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the EC on increasing the scope of social welfare legislation and on more direct union participation in EC institutions. It also will seek more control of multinational corporations, possibly through European-wide collective bargaining.

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NOTE

PHILIPPINES: Radical elements apparently hope to provoke violence during today's Independence Day celebrations in Manila. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] members of the Communist insurgent New People's Army are infiltrating groups of demonstrators [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] The government is tightening its security precautions, and the army has been placed on alert. Several insurgent suspects were arrested in Manila on 11 June, and some arms and explosives were seized. [REDACTED]

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